

Visa Status Comparison Chart	H-1B	E-3	TN	J-1	Permanent Residency (aka Green Card)	B-1/B-2
						Visa Waiver Program (VWP)
Duration Allowed	6 years (3 years at a time), with exceptions (ex: if PR application is pending)	Indefinite, but 2 years at a time	Indefinite, but 3 years at a time	5 years	Indefinite	Determined at port of entry, usually 6 months
Prevailing wage requirement	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Country of Citizenship	Any	Australia	Mexico and Canada	Any	Any	Any, VWP list here
Immigrant Intent (able to pursue PR)	Yes	No	No	No	Already an immigrant	No
Cost to Department to File Initial Petition	\$325 & \$500 for initial petition. Extra \$1225 for premium processing. Subsequent petitions fee varies.	\$325 if they do not travel. No fee if they travel.	\$325 if they do not travel. \$50 fee if they travel.	None for Department. SEVIS fee must be paid by the scholar.	None for department. There are fees for employee.	None for department.
Document that identifies the status	I-797 Approval Notice	I-797 Approval Notice (only if a petition is filed). If no petition, no I-797; then the I-94 card identifies status	I-797 Approval Notice (only if a petition is filed). If no petition, no I-797; then the I-94 card identifies status	DS-2019	I-551 visa <u>or</u> I-797 Approval Notice <u>or</u> PR card	I-94 card
Dependent Work Authorization	Some, but not all, spouses are eligible	Yes, only spouses	No	Yes, all J-2 dependents.	Yes	No
Two Year Home Residency Requirement	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not all J-1s are subject; must fulfill it or get waiver before changing status	Not applicable	Not applicable
English Proficiency Requirement	No	No	No	Yes	No	No
Health Insurance Coverage Mandatory for Status?	No	No	No	Yes	No	No

	H-1B	E-3	TN	J-1	PR	B1/B2/VWP
Grace Period for Timely Filed Straight Extensions (no changes in title, department, %, or duties)	240 days	240 days	240 days	Not applicable; IFSS issues the documents	Never expires	Only if I-539 is pending
Amended Petitions (change in title, dept, % of employment, duties)	Must have approval notice from USCIS before change can be in place	Must have approval notice from USCIS before change can be in place	Must have approval notice from USCIS before change can be in place	Yes, field of specialization and category can't change. Updated documents needed from IFSS	Not applicable	Not applicable
Grace Period When Status Expires	None	None	None	30 days	Never expires	None
Travel Endorsement Required	No	No	No	Yes (valid for 6 months)	No	No
Valid Visa stamp needed to enter	Yes (except Canadians)	Yes	Canadians—no Mexicans—yes	Yes (except Canadians)	Immigrant visa	Only for B visitors, not Canadians.
Ways to Extend	Must file I-129, can use premium processing	Take certified LCA to Consulate or file I-129, no premium processing available	Canadians—go to port of entry or send I-129 Mexicans—go to Consulate or send I-129 Can use premium processing	File request with IFSS	Renew green card itself every 10 years	B visitors may file I-539. VWP may not extend.
Title	Academic Staff, Faculty or Employee-In-Training and very limited university staff	Academic Staff, Visiting Faculty or Employee-In-Training and very limited university staff	Title must be on Schedule 2 of the Trade NAFTA Treaty (see IFSS website)	Non tenure track Academic Staff, Visiting Faculty, Employee-In-Training	Any	None. Visitor status only—should not have UW appointment at all
Accept Outside Payments?	Only per diem (no honorarium)	Only per diem (no honorarium)	Only with new notation on I-94 card to include the names of all employers for whom you work.	Prior approval needed from IFSS (or program sponsor if not IFSS)	Can accept payment any time.	No salary or income. Honorarium may be possible, see here .